

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John Kilyk on 31 August 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

195. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting B lymphocytes comprising administering an effective amount of an antibody that binds a protein whose amino acid sequence is

MDDSTEREQS RLTSCLKKRE EMKLKECVSI LPRKESPSVR SSKDGKLLAA
TLLALLSCC LTVVSFYQVA ALQGDLASLR AELQGHHA EK LPAGAGAPKA
GLEEAPAVTA GLKIFEPPAP GEGNSSQNSR NKRAVQGPEE TVTQDCLQLI
ADSETPTIQK GSYTFVPWLL SFKRGSAL EE KENKILVKET GYFFIYGQVL
YTDKTYAMGH LIQRKKVHVF GDELSLVTLF RCIQNMPETL PNNSCYSAGI
AKLEEGDELQ LAIPRENAQI SLDGDVTFFG ALKLL (amino acid residues 134-285 of
SEQ ID NO:2)

wherein B lymphocytes are inhibited.

222. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an autoimmune ~~system~~ disease or disorder comprising administering to an individual, an effective amount of an antagonistic

antibody or portion thereof that specifically binds a protein consisting of ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues 134-285 of SEQ ID NO:2.

246. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting B lymphocyte proliferation, differentiation, or survival comprising administering to an individual or a cell culture containing B lymphocytes, an effective amount of an antagonistic antibody or portion thereof that specifically binds a protein consisting of ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence of amino acid residues 134-285 of SEQ ID NO:2.

281. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 222, wherein the autoimmune ~~system~~ disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of systemic lupus erythematosus, idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP), Sjogren's syndrome, Waldenstrom's macroglobulinaemia, multiple sclerosis, cancer, asthma, nephritis, diabetes, scleroderma, vasculitis, cryoglobulinaemia, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), renal transplantation, and antiphospholipid syndrome.

288. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 254, wherein the autoimmune ~~system~~ disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of systemic lupus erythematosus, idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP), Sjogren's syndrome, Waldenstrom's macroglobulinaemia, multiple sclerosis, cancer, asthma, nephritis, diabetes, scleroderma, vasculitis, cryoglobulinaemia, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), renal transplantation, and antiphospholipid syndrome.

291. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 281, wherein the autoimmune ~~system~~ disease or disorder is idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP).

292. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 281, wherein the autoimmune ~~system~~ disease or disorder is Sjogren's syndrome.

293. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 281, wherein the autoimmune ~~system~~ disease or disorder is multiple sclerosis.

294. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 281, wherein the autoimmune ~~system~~ disease or disorder is renal transplantation.

295. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 288, wherein the autoimmune ~~system~~ disease or disorder is systemic lupus erythematosus.

296. (Canceled)

297. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 288, wherein the autoimmune ~~system~~ disease or disorder is idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP).

298. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 288, wherein the autoimmune ~~system~~ disease or disorder is Sjogren's syndrome.

299. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 288, wherein the autoimmune ~~system~~ disease or disorder is multiple sclerosis.

300. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 288, wherein the autoimmune ~~system~~ disease or disorder is renal transplantation.

For Applicant's convenience, the authorized Examiner's amendment of 27 July 2009 is restated herein below.

Claims 310 and 313-353 were cancelled.

In claim 284, line 1, delete "I" and insert therefore -281-

In claim 285, line 1, delete "I" and insert therefore -281-

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bridget E. Bunner whose telephone number is (571) 272-0881. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Manjunath Rao can be reached on (571) 272-0939. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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BEB
Art Unit 1647
14 September 2009

/Bridget E Bunner/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1647